

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

IN RE: THOMASVILLE, GEORGIA COURTHOUSE

Filed at 11:47 AM  
August 17, 2007  
*Daryl A. Shepard*  
DEPUTY CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

ORDER

After due consideration, the active district judges of this district reached the conclusion to close the Thomasville Courthouse based on two justifications: (1) that the cost to maintain this courthouse without a resident judge or staff outweighs the benefits of continuing to rent over 12,500 square feet in Thomasville with a small caseload; and (2) that the General Services Administration (GSA) does not intend to maintain the courthouse in the future at the level necessary to continue holding court. Accordingly, the court requested the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Council to approve the closing of the Thomasville, Georgia courthouse facility pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §462(b). On August 2, 2007, the court was notified that the Judicial Council had voted to approve the request.

Accordingly, the Clerk is directed to cease court operations in the Thomasville courthouse as soon as administratively possible. The cessation of operations in the Thomasville Division shall include transferring all pending Thomasville Division civil and criminal cases to either the Valdosta or Albany Divisions. Cases arising from Brooks, Colquitt and Thomas Counties will be transferred to the Valdosta Division and cases arising from Seminole, Decatur and Grady Counties will be transferred to the Albany Division. No new civil complaints or new criminal indictments shall be filed in the Thomasville Division.

The closure of the Thomasville courthouse facility does not remove Thomasville as a designated "place of holding court", but rather terminates the court's use of the facility due to insufficient business.

SO ORDERED, this 17th day of August, 2007.

  
HUGH LAWSON  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE